State, FEMA Disaster Recovery Centers Adjust Hours of Operation

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» More Information on West Virginia Severe Storms, Flooding, Mudslides, And Lanslides
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CHARLESTON, W. Va. -- The five state and federal Disaster Recovery Centers open in West Virginia to assist individuals, households and businesses that suffered damage from the recent storms will operate on new schedules beginning Saturday, March 31, Federal Emergency Management Agency officials said Thursday.

The new hours are: Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at:

Lincoln County

Duval Fire Company 5237 Straightfork Road Griffithsville, WV

Logan County

Verdunville Volunteer Fire Department Rte. 5, 2270 Mud Fork Road Logan, WV

Marion County

City Public Safety Office 500 Quincy Street Fairmont, WV

Wayne County

Cabwaylingo Presbyterian Church 1475 Left Fork Dunlow Bypass Road Dunlow, WV

Wayne County Health Department 217 Kenova Ave. Wayne, WV A free bus shuttle is available seven days a week from Kiahsville to the DRC at the Wayne County Health Department. The bus leaves from the post office and general story every two hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The centers are staffed with disaster-recovery specialists who can provide information and answer questions about storm-related assistance, according to FEMA.

"Before stopping by at the disaster recovery centers, people seeking assistance are strongly urged to register with FEMA," said Charleston-based FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer Deanne Criswell. "Having spoken with or otherwise having contacted state or local officials does not count. You must register with FEMA in order to apply for help."

By phone, call the FEMA Hotline at 800-621-FEMA (3362). For those with speech or hearing disabilities, use the TTY number, 800-462-7585. Applicants can also register online at DisasterAssistance.gov or with any web-enabled device at m.fema.gov.

Information needed when registering with FEMA includes the address of the damaged property, names of those living in the household, a general description of the damage, the Social Security Account number of any family member living in the home, the extent of insurance coverage and certain other information needed to expedite the process.

Also on hand at the Disaster Recovery Centers are representatives from the Small Business Administration who can explain the low-interest disaster loans available to homeowners, renters, private nonprofits and businesses of any size. These loans are for the repair or replacement of real estate and/or personal property damaged by the storms and related flooding, officials said. People who register with FEMA may be sent a loan application from the SBA. No one is obligated to take out a loan, according to the SBA.

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.